



BARNES & THORNBURG

600 One Summit Square
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802
(260) 423-9440

PATENT APPLICATION

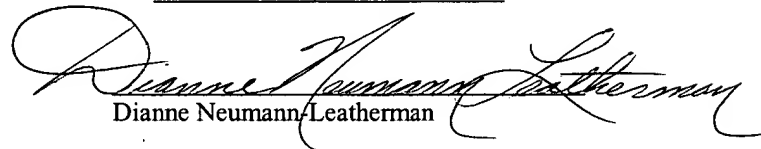
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Customer No.: 23641
Application No.: 09/406290
Confirmation No.: 1448
Filing Date: September 24, 1999
Attorney Docket No.: 37168/82045
First Named Inventor: Stephen H. Lewis, et al.
Group Art Unit: 3627
Examiner Name: Christopher R. Buchanan
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING RETIREMENT INCOME BENEFITS

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on December 19, 2003


Dianne Neumann-Leatherman

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GROUP 3600

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

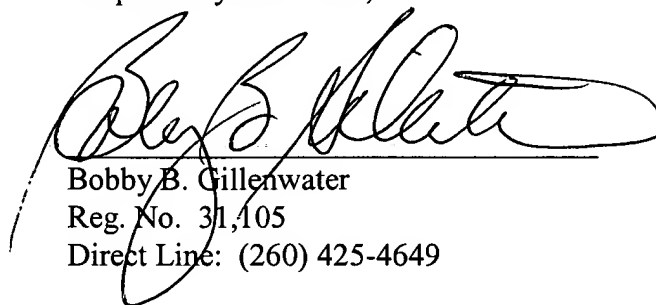
Commissioner of Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicant petitions the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for filing the Appeal Brief for two (2) months from the October 21, 2003, filing date of the Notice of Appeal to December 21, 2003.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 is hereby made.

As required, the appropriate fee of \$420.00 specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.17 is submitted herewith. Please credit any overpayments or charge any additional fees to the Deposit Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Account No. 02-1010 (37168/82045).

Respectfully submitted,



Bobby B. Gillenwater
Reg. No. 31,105
Direct Line: (260) 425-4649

Date: December 19, 2003

FWDS01 BBG 178286
(Rev. 08/03)